

GCSE REVISION STRATEGIES

South Dartmoor Community College



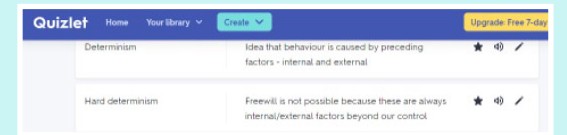
1 Flashcards

- Use index cards to jot down the key information from a topic, theory, core study, etc.
- Use the index cards to test yourself later on.
- You can make them pretty or rough – both work, as long as you can read your writing.



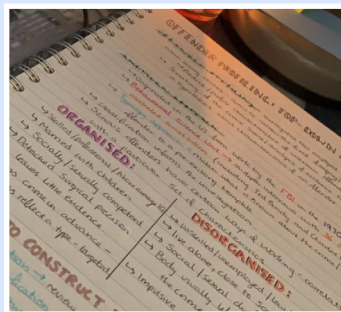
2 Typed flashcards

- Typed or online flashcards are also great.
- The Quizlet app allows you to test yourself anytime and anywhere.
- You can add photos and text, and they are easy to organise and edit.
- The write function gives you a description and you test your knowledge by writing the key term. It saves progress too, so you can return to them later.



3 Summary pages

- Grab a notebook and write summaries for theory, topic or core study.
- Get the key information down and get used to summarising the content; you will do this in an exam.
- On one side have the content/key research, and on the other side have the evaluation.



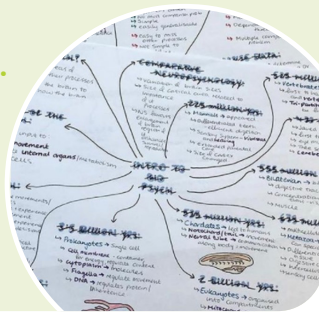
4 Quizzes

- Write questions to test yourself on content. Once written, leave them for a while so that you are not simply remembering what you have just written.
- Ask family/friends to use these to quiz you, or quiz yourself.
- Create Kahoot quizzes and compete with friends, or use their wealth of pre-existing quizzes.

Kahoot!

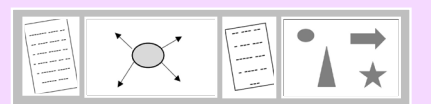
5 Mind maps

- Pick a topic, theme, core study or key area to put in the centre of the mind map.
- Each branch should represent a different idea or aspect.
- Make it colourful and add diagrams or drawings to help represent your ideas.
- Good for linking conceptions and making associations between ideas.



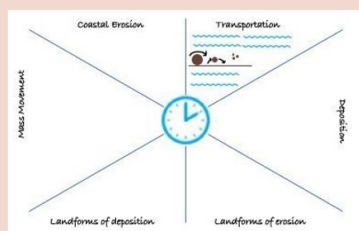
6 Folding frenzy

- **Notes:** Write on one side of A4 – terms, definitions, research, evaluation. Fold.
- **Graphic organiser:** Create a graphic organiser on the A5 side. Represent the most important aspects. Fold.
- **Flashcard:** Write on the A6 side – 5-6 summary sentences. Turn over.
- **Symbols:** On the last A6 side – draw symbols to help you remember.



7 Revision clocks

- On a piece of paper with a clock in the middle, divide by how many ideas you are recapping, or how much time you think you need for each one (6 blocks = 10 minutes each).
- Give each section a title.
- Fill in each section with information/diagrams **from memory** within the time limit.
- Go back and fill in any missing information.



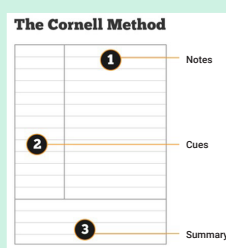
8 Cued to free recall

- Create a comprehensive list of prompts for the information you want to recall.
- When you need to recall information, take out a new document or paper and add cues from your master list.
- After multiple recall sessions, gradually remove cues as you become more confident with the material, eventually transitioning to free recall.

Learn:	Recall:
Banana	Ba _____
Interesting	In _____
Annoy	An _____
Book	Bo _____
Computer	Co _____

9 Cornell method

- Split your page into three. Start with section 2 and, using your booklet/notes, write down key terms, statistics, numbers or equations.
- Move onto section 1 – without your notes, using only the key information you put in section 2, make more detailed notes.
- Finally, in section 3 summarise the main ideas in 3-4 sentences.



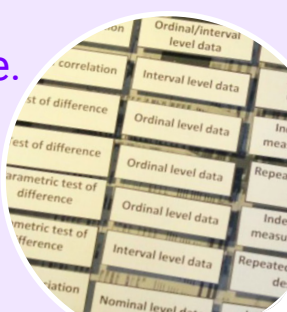
10 'Prepare to teach'

- Plan to teach a topic/core piece of research. The planning process requires cognitive elaboration and deeper processing - you need to learn the content well enough to teach it. You could teach a peer within your subject, or someone who does not take that subject.
- Protégé effect – students enlisted to tutor others work harder to understand the material, recall it more accurately and apply it more effectively.



11 Card sorts

- Helps you to organise information and make links between different aspects.
- Easy to make and quick to revise with once they are made.
- You could use card sorts for definitions, to put tables of information back together or match content to topics.
- Can be used again and again to rehearse the same information.



12 Past questions

- Practice examination questions over and over, well-spaced over time.
- Select topics you have just revised to secure the knowledge.
- Explore worked examples or exam answers as well as writing your own, which helps process, practice and refine your revision.

